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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yosuke INOMATA, et al.

Serial No: 10/648,429

Confirmation No.: 4541

Filed: August 26, 2003

For: Method and Apparatus For
Processing Substrate and Plate Used
Therein

Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: Allan W. Olsen

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**TRANSMITTAL OF
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

1. ☐ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
2. ☒ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification

after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

OR FEE

- ☒ Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

3. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

AND FEE

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).
4. ☒ If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. **A copy of this petition is enclosed.**
5. ☒ A list of 28 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

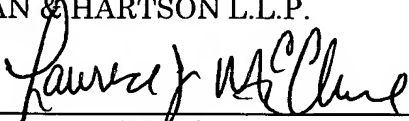
NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

- ☐ Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- ☐ The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
- ☐ Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

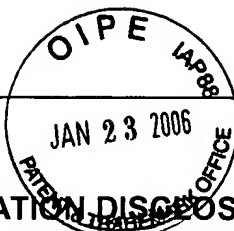
Date: January 18, 2006

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Respectfully submitted,
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FORM PTO-1449



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
81872.0050Application Number
10/648,429Applicant
Inomata et al.Filing Date
08/26/03Group Art Unit
1763

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,243,506	01-1981	Ikeda et al.	204	298.31	
	4,523,971	06-1985	Cuomo et al.	156	345.39	
	4,661,203	04-1987	Smith et al.	438	725	
	4,681,780	07-1987	Kamman	427	282	
	4,842,679	06-1989	Kudo et al.	438	707	
	5,015,331	05-1991	Powell	438	723	
	5,171,732	12-1992	Hed	505	190	
	5,223,108	06-1993	Hurwitt	204	192.12	
	5,254,215	10-1993	Terakado et al.	216	63	
	5,304,250	04-1994	Sameshima et al.	118	723ER	
	5,332,464	07-1994	Namrose	438	9	
	5,753,014	05-1998	Van Rijn	96	12	
	5,764,842	06-1998	Aoki et al.	385	131	
	5,968,275	10-1999	Lee et al.	118	723R	
	6,087,274	07-2000	Tonucci et al.	438	758	
	6,176,967	01-2001	Obszarny	156	345.3	
	6,214,161	04-2001	Becker et al.	156	345.48	
	6,261,406	07-2001	Jurgensen et al.	156	345.3	
	6,316,289	11-2001	Chung	438	118	
	6,413,880	07-2002	Baski et al.	438	759	
	US-2002/0168166 A1	11-2002	Itoh et al.	385	129	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	JP 61238981 A	10-1986	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 02106925 A	04-1990	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 11317396 A	11-1999	Japan			Abstract	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) 81872.0050	Application Number 10/648,429
	Applicant Inomata et al.	
	Filing Date 08/26/03	Group Art Unit 1763

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	JP 62277730 A	12-1987	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 62047132 A	02-1987	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 59219464 A	12-1984	Japan			Abstract	
	JP 09-102625	04-1997	Japan			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	